



# The Domino Effect of Legalizing Physician-Assisted Suicide



## Reduce the waiting period

All states where legal



All states have reduced the waiting period for dispensing lethal drugs for PAS, leaving patients little time to contemplate the decision they're making.

## Incentivize doctor shopping

All states where legal



Denials mean nothing - a patient can see unlimited physicians until s/he receives approval for PAS.

## Ignore mental health referral guidelines

All states where legal



It is a legal requirement to refer patients to psychological treatment if they exhibit a wide range of behaviors, to include depression; yet, referrals are made in less than 1% of cases.

## Discriminate against people with disabilities

All states where legal



Every state's legal requirements for PAS automatically qualify many people with disabilities, violating the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

## Remove residency requirements

OR, VT



In Europe, this is referred to as suicide tourism, where Europeans flock to Switzerland to access PAS. This now exists in the US.

## Eliminate wrongful death legal liability

CA



California amended its law to "prohibit a person whose actions are compliant with the End of Life Option Act from being prosecuted for deliberately aiding, advising, or encouraging suicide," inevitably incentivizing coercion.

## Water down definition of physician

CO, HI, WA



States now allow for nurses and physician assistants to prescribe and dispense lethal drugs, embedding this practice deeper in the healthcare system.

## Abandon in-person consultations

VT



Patients no longer are required to meet face-to-face to discuss this sensitive issue; an impersonal phone call can do.

## Legalize poison-by-mail

WA



Not only can patients receive poison by mail, but there is no mechanism to verify whether the patient received it or used it.

## PAS for anorexia, hernias, arthritis, and other non-terminal conditions

CA, CO, OR, HI



Manipulation of language/routine can turn anorexia from a chronic disease into a terminal disease - for example, if you starve yourself to death and refuse to eat, doesn't that make anorexia a terminal disease?

## Withold life-saving treatment, offer PAS

CA, OR



Insurance companies have denied patients life-saving treatment, while offering PAS for a minimal copay.

Since 2009, deaths by physician-assisted suicide in America have increased every year, without exception.

